



Federation of
Post-Secondary Educators
of BC

MEMBER UPDATE

Although it is only the beginning of September, 2017 has been a momentous year for FPSE. Our Open the Doors campaign marked a new milestone for our organization as our largest election-related advocacy effort to date. Due to the hard work of our members and activists, it was also our most successful campaign. I wanted to say thank you for your time and commitment to making post-secondary education in BC more affordable and accessible, and provide a brief update regarding our ongoing work and upcoming events.

Government Relations Update

Two weeks after being sworn-in, Hon. Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education and I met to discuss our top priorities for post-secondary education. Five days later, she announced with the Premier and Education Minister Rob Fleming the reinstatement of tuition-free ABE and ELL classes. It was a proud moment to be at the announcement in person as this crucial educational priority was delivered. Since that announcement, Minister Mark has been touring post-secondary institutions across BC and meeting with faculty association presidents and members. We will be continuing our conversations with Minister Mark to address the issues in post-secondary education in the coming months.

Labour Day

On Labour Day, I will be at our FPSE table at Holland Park in Surrey – if you live in the Lower Mainland, please drop by to say hello. If you live outside of the lower mainland, I encourage you to visit your local Labour Day event put on by the Labour District Council in your area. Look for FPSE in the news around this date as we will be issuing a comment timed with the beginning of the September semester.

Presidents' Council Meeting

The Presidents' Council will be meeting September 21-22 in Vancouver. We will be discussing our upcoming plans, and providing updates regarding work being undertaken by both FPSE and each Local. Please contact your local president if you have any questions, or would like more information.

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Walk for Reconciliation

It has been four years since 70,000 people walked in the streets with the Reconciliation Canada Walk for Reconciliation. Since that time, Reconciliation Canada has been actively engaging and working with citizens and organizations to translate Reconciliation into action. The response and need for their work has been so enthusiastic that they are holding a second Walk on September 24, with more opportunities for individuals and organizations to be an active participant. FPSE will provide further updates regarding the details of our participation, but we encourage you to mark your calendars now to join us in taking part in this powerful day.

Fair Employment Week

From October 23-27, we will be joining with educators and educational labour organizations to call for equal compensation for equal work for sessional and non-regular faculty. We will continue to circulate news and updates regarding ways to join the fight for fairness.

George Davison

President